



WISCONSIN ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE



Workgroup Updates

June 29th, 2016

Data and Research

The workgroup has discussed the child sex trafficking data available within each state agency, and the strengths and limitations of this data. All child sex trafficking data tracked by state agencies has only very recently begun and therefore is not reflective of the anecdotal reports of child sex trafficking we know to be occurring within Wisconsin. Recognizing the deficiencies of this data, the group is working to identify how data reporting can be improved, as well as how to link data across systems to improve our understanding of the issue and evaluate any sex-trafficking prevention initiatives that are implemented. Finally, we are also working to use our available data to identify our high-risk population of children so that we may proactively work to prevent sex trafficking before it begins.

Prevention and Public Awareness

The workgroup developed a focus for a potential campaign message, which needs to encompass 1) Community Awareness Education, 2) Victim Assistance, and 3) Ending the Demand. There are currently four subgroups within the workgroup working on development of a Wisconsin *Chosen* video outline, identifying potential campaign and outreach partners, developing messaging language and the venues and partners for greatest impact, and reviewing prevention tool kits for future development in WI. The workgroup is also reaching out to potential partners and funding entities for assistance (e.g., Lashondra Scott 'The 411 Live', Voices of Men in Fox Valley).

Training

This workgroup has focused on agreeing upon a definition of "sex trafficking of youth" and identifying a framework that will be used to develop the training curricula. The group's decision is to include both the federal and state statutory language in the materials, as well as a more user-friendly definition in the training materials. Team members have gathered training curricula and resources used on a local and national level. The workgroup is interested in the curriculum currently being used in Appleton, Wisconsin. The group's intent is to use the framework as the foundation, to develop a curriculum that can be utilized in various disciplines of service around the state, with five modules:

1. **Vulnerability:** focus is what makes a child vulnerable to recruitment, including risk factors, susceptibility
2. **Recruitment:** traffickers'/exploiters' tactics to get the child involved in trafficking, including grooming, and a development of the understanding of why the child trafficked doesn't/can't leave
3. **Exploitation:** the illegal sexual treatment/use of a child for personal gain, including porn, photos, sexual exploitation, entertainment, strip clubs, selling sexual services, etc
4. **Withdrawals:** getting out of the trafficking situation, by rescue, escape or otherwise. Exploring the challenges for the person trafficked and the professionals working with him/her. Risks involved in withdrawal
5. **Reintegration:** formal and informal supports needed, including all aspects of trauma-informed care and response

The workgroup has also self-selected into subgroups based on disciplines, with the goal of creating learning objectives as a discipline for each of the modules identified.

Identification and Screening

This workgroup continues to work on evaluating screening tools already being used in other agencies and states. Phase 1 included doing an initial review of each tool to determine if it should progress to phase 2, which involves a deeper evaluation. Phase 2 evaluations are based on the Task Force Guiding Principles and what workgroup members agreed would be critical elements of a screening tool. The following are the criteria that are being rated on a scale of 1-5 (poor to excellent):

- **Ease of Use:** Short, concise, able to be used across agencies easily
- **Limited Training Required:** Does not require extensive training for the users
- **Victim Centered/Trauma Informed:** Uses non-judgmental, victim-centered, strength based, and non-blaming (of victim OR suspect) language
- **Culturally & Gender Sensitive:** Gender neutral (suspect and victim), LGBTQ sensitive, uses inclusive language, questions are sensitive to all developmental levels
- **Non-Investigatory:** Does use investigative language or questions, more open-ended and narrative questions versus direct questions
- **Evidence of Effectiveness:** Has the tool shown to be effective (regardless of validation)

The workgroup is currently in phase 2 and have reviewed two tools using the above criteria. Each month we will review 2-3 more tools until we have completed all tools that have gone through phase 1. Our estimated phase 2 completion date is October 2016. Phase 3 will involve deciding the tool(s) we will present to the Task Force in early 2017. The method for phase 3 has yet to be determined by the workgroup.

Placement and Services

A major focus of this workgroup has been the Regional Hub Structure and focus on the creation of Service Delivery for Human Trafficking Survey. In an efforts to create a regional hub-structure of services, the Placement and Services workgroup has created a survey to identify existing organizations and agencies that serve children and youth who are survivors or at risk of becoming survivors of sex trafficking. The cover letter and survey are currently being finalized. DCF has contracted with the UW Survey Center to manage programming, distribution, and collection of data for the survey. This survey will provide future direction in the organization and development of the regional hub-structure of services. The survey contract is being overseen by Dr. Joy Ippolito, the DCF Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinator. The workgroup has also explored other critical issues and regulatory considerations relating to the residential placement and non-residential community based services.